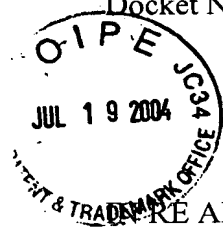


Docket No.: 248213US0



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT & TRADEMARK OFFICE

RE APPLICATION OF:

KENZO YOKOZEKI, ET AL

SERIAL NO: 10/775,178

FILED: FEBRUARY 11, 2004

FOR: NOVEL PEPTIDE-FORMING ENZYME, MICROBE PRODUCING THE  
ENZYME AND METHOD FOR PRODUCING PEPTIDE USING THEM

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT AND STATEMENT

COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS  
ALEXANDRIA, VIRGINIA 22313-1450

SIR:

In response to the Office Communication mailed May 17, 2004, please amend the  
above-identified application as follows:

**Amendments to the Specification** begin on page 2 of this response.

**Remarks** begin on page 5 of this response.